

Subject: **Army Smart Card Reader Acquisition Guidance**

**REF:** Message, HQDA, SAIS-ZA, 161658Z Jan02, Subject: As Above.

The Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications and computers (DISC4) released its guidance for the procurement of Smart Card Readers (SCR) in conjunction with purchases of Personal Computers (PCs and Notebooks) and other workstations. (A copy of the actual message is attached at the end of this document.)

The intent of the message is to support current and future Smart Card/Common Access Card (CAC) with Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certificate implementation requirements through the Army's procurement processes. The message specifically notes two exceptions to this SCR/CAC – PKI requirement. If you are not part of the exception groups as delineated in the message and you require the ability to read and send email across the network you must have the SCR capability on your system. Any request for other exception must be addressed to DISC4, ATTN: SAIS-IOT.

**Information to Note:**

- Background: PM SET-D has responsibility to field 100% of the Smart Card Readers to the Army's installed base of PCs and workstations based on PM SET-D data calls that identified those assets per installation. For users wanting to know if your systems are covered by a data call should contact your local DOIM/DCI organization. For new system buys not covered by the data call, users must provide their own funding to purchase the required SCRs and middleware when necessary.
- **SPECIAL NOTE:** It is not mandatory that you buy an SCR and middleware for each PC that you buy through ASCP. It is mandatory that our ASCP contracts provide the capability for the Army to buy them either with each system or as a separate commodity purchase. However, it is up to the buyer as to how they will meet the SCR implementation requirement. As an example, if you are buying five new PCs to replace five PCs that already have the SCR/middleware functionality as an external device attachment, then you should just transfer your inventory of SCRs to the new systems. Old, obsolete systems should always be harvested before disposal no matter what the situation – for card readers, software licenses, other externally attached peripherals, etc.
- ASCP Actions: ASCP has worked with its current vendors, providing them the list of "tested" (if an item makes this list, consider it approved for Army use) SCRs and middleware by SET-D (<https://setdweb.belvoir.army.mil/training/cardreader.html>). As with any guidance issued, the base contract modification process always lags behind, however, ASCP is working hard to get those approved SCRs added as quickly as possible to our contracts. In the interim, our contracts do currently provide the flexibility for our vendors to offer SCRs and middleware today through the use of Other Direct Cost (ODC) CLINs and Total Solutions offerings. There are a number of SCRs and middleware that are available in the marketplace but have not yet been tested

and added to the approved list. Continue to check the SET-D approved list on a frequent basis. Also, ask our vendors for more details or contact ASCP for more specific product information and availability.

- UNIX Applications: More information to follow regarding UNIX and SCR product and middleware availability – please check back.
- Questions have arisen from the discussion of the SCR requirement about the PCMCIA requirement established back in 1994:

**Update to PCMCIA – 7 Jul 94 OSD Policy Memorandum:**

If a person is not intending to send information above the Sensitive, but Unclassified (SBU) level using DMS, then they do NOT need to meet the PCMCIA requirement for those PCs/Notebooks/workstations, but they would need to request a waiver from that requirement. (Stated alternatively, if an individual intends to send information above the SBU level using DMS, then the associated PC/Notebook/workstation must be fitted with a PCMCIA slot in accordance with the 7 July 1994 OSD memorandum). Army users wishing to request a waiver should submit it to OSD via email to: [leo.milanowski@osd.mil](mailto:leo.milanowski@osd.mil).

For any further questions or inquiries about ASCP's support of this policy and guidance, please call us at 1-888-232-4405.

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UNCLAS ALARACT 0008/2002

SUBJ: UNCLAS ALARACT 0008/2002: ARMY SMART CARD READER ACQUISITION GUIDANCE

THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR COMMAND, CONTROL,  
COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMPUTERS (DISC4) RELEASES THE FOLLOWING

MESSAGE:

SUBJECT: UNCLAS ALARACT 0008/2002: ARMY SMART CARD READER  
ACQUISITION GUIDANCE

- A. MEMORANDUM, DEPSECDEF, 10 NOVEMBER 1999, SUBJECT: SMART CARD ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION.
- B. MEMORANDUM, DOD ASD(C3I/CIO), 12 AUGUST 2000, SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI).
- C. MESSAGE, HQDA, SAIS-ZA, 141400Z DEC 00, SUBJECT: UNCLAS ALARACT 0108/2000, INTERIM POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR COMMON ACCESS CARD (CAC) / SMART CARD (SC) IMPLEMENTATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.
- D. MESSAGE, HQDA, SAIS-ZA, 141430Z DEC 00, SUBJECT: UNCLAS ALARACT 0109/2000, INTERIM POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI) IMPLEMENTATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.
- E. DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE 6/3, 13 JUNE 1999, SUBJECT: PROTECTING SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION WITHIN INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

1. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON THE PROCUREMENT OF SMART CARD READERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PURCHASES OF PERSONAL COMPUTERS (PCS) AND OTHER WORKSTATIONS TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE SMART CARD IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS. THE SMART CARD/COMMON ACCESS CARD (SC/CAC) WITH PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI) CERTIFICATES IS BEING IMPLEMENTED ARMY-WIDE TO COMPLY WITH REFERENCES A AND B. THIS MESSAGE APPLIES TO ALL FUTURE PROCUREMENTS OF WORKSTATIONS AND PERSONAL COMPUTERS THAT CONNECT TO ARMY SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS, INCLUDING ALL LOCAL AREA NETWORKS/WIDE AREA NETWORKS (LANS/WANS) BUILT UPON OPERATING SYSTEMS SUCH AS WINDOWS, LINUX, OR NOVELL.

2. THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED HEREIN IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND APPLIES TO THE ACTIVE ARMY, THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE, AND ARMY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES FOR ALL PROCUREMENT-RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PCS AND WORKSTATIONS, EXCEPT AS NOTED IMMEDIATELY BELOW. THIS MESSAGE DOES NOT:

A. APPLY TO INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY (IC) SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION (SCI) AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS OPERATED WITHIN THE DOD IC THAT FALL UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH (IAW) REFERENCES B AND E.

B. APPLY TO PCS OR WORKSTATIONS ON NETWORKS ENCRYPTED USING NSA-APPROVED TECHNIQUES OR IN THE TACTICAL ENVIRONMENT.

3. IAW REFERENCES A THROUGH D ABOVE, IT IS ARMY DISC4/CIO GUIDANCE THAT:

A. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY ANY NEW PROCUREMENT OF PCS AND WORKSTATIONS THAT WILL BE CONNECTED TO ARMY SYSTEMS OR NETWORKS FOR USE BY THE ACTIVE ARMY, THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE, OR ARMY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES MUST ALSO PROVIDE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF AN APPROVED SMART CARD READER AND ASSOCIATED MIDDLEWARE FOR EACH PC OR WORKSTATION. THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR AND A LISTING OF APPROVED SMART CARD READERS AND ASSOCIATED MIDDLEWARE ARE PROVIDED AT THE FOLLOWING WEB-SITE: [HTTPS://SETDWEB.BELVOIR.ARMY.MIL/](https://setdweb.belvoir.army.mil/). (FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING "LINKS": CLICK ON "SET-D" AT BOTTOM OF SCREEN, THEN CLICK ON "SUPPORT" IN THE UPPER RIGHT, THEN CLICK ON "DOCUMENTS"; THE APPROVED LIST OF CARD READERS CAN BE FOUND UNDER "CARD READER TEST APPROVAL BY PM SET-D".)

B. NOT LATER THAN 180 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS MESSAGE, ALL EXISTING CONTRACTS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF PCS AND WORKSTATIONS THAT WILL BE CONNECTED TO ARMY SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS FOR USE BY THE ACTIVE ARMY, THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE, AND ARMY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES SHALL BE MODIFIED TO ENSURE THAT ORGANIZATIONS PROCURING PCS AND WORKSTATIONS UNDER THESE CONTRACTS CAN SIMULTANEOUSLY PROCURE THE REQUIRED SMART CARD READERS AND MIDDLEWARE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE DOD CAC AND PKI.

4. REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS TO THIS GUIDANCE FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL PROCUREMENT MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMPUTERS (DISC4), ATTN: SAIS-IOT. EACH WAIVER REQUEST SHALL INCLUDE A CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE NEED FOR THE WAIVER, INCLUDING THE BENEFITS THAT WILL ACCRUE TO THE ARMY IF THE WAIVER IS APPROVED, AND THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS THAT WILL RESULT IF THE WAIVER IS NOT APPROVED.

5. THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR THIS GUIDANCE IS MR. KEMP PRUGH, ODISC4/SRA, COMMERCIAL (703) 558-7861, EMAIL: [E.PRUGH@US.ARMY.MIL](mailto:E.PRUGH@US.ARMY.MIL).

6. EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.

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